

CHARACTERISTICS OF AIG STUDENTS

- ⇒ **Communication**-highly expressive and effective use of words, numbers, and symbols
- ⇒ **Motivation**-desire to learn
- ⇒ **Humor**-conveys and picks up on humor
- ⇒ **Inquiry**-questions, experiments, explores
- ⇒ **Insight**-quickly grasps new concepts and makes connections
- ⇒ **Interests**-intense interests maintained over time
- ⇒ **Problem solving**-effective, often inventive strategies for recognizing and solving problems
- ⇒ **Memory**-large storehouse of information
- ⇒ **Reasoning**-logical approaches to figuring out solutions
- ⇒ **Creativity**-produces many ideas, highly original

Not everything that counts can be counted
and not everything that can be counted
counts.

-Albert Einstein

AIG Contact Information

AIG Coordinator

Grace Smith 585-1900 ext. 2741

Middle School AIG Teacher

Kitty Cochran 585-0312 ext. 2339

Northampton County Schools Vision

Northampton County Schools provides gifted students the opportunity to become independent learners and decision makers, inspires the love of learning, facilitates high achievement capabilities and fosters individual interests. The educators believe they have a duty to nurture highly able learners from all populations and produce independent learners for the 21st century who will maximize their intellectual potential.

Purpose

The purpose of the Academically Intellectually Gifted Program in Northampton County is to provide students with the opportunity to reach their maximum academic and social potential through an enriching continuum of services. These procedures and guidelines include: screening, identification and placement, various settings to meet the needs of diverse students, measurable objectives, staff development, program evaluation, parent/family and community involvement, personnel implementation and procedures to resolve disputes. Our responsibility is to discover, to nurture, and to develop the abilities of the total school population. Within this framework is a range of specific differentiated educational options for academically gifted students.

AIG

**ACADEMICALLY
AND
INTELLECTUALLY
GIFTED**



Northampton County Schools
701 N. Church St.
Jackson, NC 27845
Visit www.northampton.k12.nc.us for
additional information on AIG services

Referral Process

The Northampton County School system administers the CogAT (aptitude test) to all second grade students. Students who score at 85% or higher will be considered for nomination for AIG services. In addition, school personnel will annually conduct a comprehensive search for potential AIG students. The comprehensive search will give attention to the potential of students, including minority students, students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged students, and other under served groups. Referrals should be submitted by April 1st.

Northampton County Schools uses multiple criteria for placing a student into the AIG program. Students must meet the criteria in 3 out of the 4 categories to be identified.

Criteria	Requirements
Aptitude	85th percentile or higher on a district approved aptitude test
Achievement	85th percentile or higher on a district approved achievement test
Observations of Gifted Characteristics and Behavior	Teacher's documentation of observable behaviors that indicate need for differentiation.
Performance in the Identification Area	Student's demonstrated mastery shown through work samples and grades of B or higher

Differentiated Education Plan (DEP)

A DEP is developed when students are initially identified and it is reviewed annually. The DEP lists the appropriate service options for that student at each grade. Also, the DEP lists the learning environments, content modifications, and special programs available to the student during that year. Individual student evaluation is a continuous process. Since the academically/intellectually gifted program is based on a student's demonstrated need for differentiated services, the student's progress will be evaluated regularly. Documentation of the student's work, completed as a result of participation in a specific option, shall be maintained, as well as a review of the test scores and grades that will assist in determining whether or not a student's service options need to be changed.

Transfer Students

Identification varies from district to district and state to state. If a child meets Northampton County Schools' established AIG identification criteria, the child will be identified and a DEP will be developed. If not, the AIG coordinator will begin the referral process for the child.

AIG Services

AIG Nurturing Group

Students in first and second grades are not formally identified as AIG, but Northampton County Schools will nurture or develop the potential of these students in the nurturing program. Students who demonstrate high performance will be recommended by classroom teachers to participate in small-group enrichment activities. The curriculum that is followed, Primary Education Thinking Skills, teaches high level thinking skills of convergent thinking, divergent thinking, evaluative thinking, and visual/spatial perception.

Grades 3-4

Services for identified students in 3rd-4th grade are served as outlined in their Differentiated Education Plan (DEP). The AIG specialist collaborates with the classroom teacher regarding differentiated curriculum and instruction within the regular classroom. The AIG specialist also works with students in the classroom embedding acceleration and enrichment into regular classroom instruction. Students are pulled out for AIG resource class weekly to work on special projects and units that enrich or extend what is being taught in the classroom. Instruction is differentiated through the use of more advanced, complex texts and resource materials, learning contracts, interdisciplinary learning, accelerated pacing, learning centers, and technology integration. Higher order thinking skills are emphasized throughout all subject areas.

Grade Levels 5-8

Middle school students identified AIG are involved in a pull-out enrichment program. The AIG curriculum attempts to connect the aptitude of the gifted student with an advanced coursework that fosters independent thinking within a challenging atmosphere. Enrichment activities include projects, experiments, competitive contests and challenges that are aligned with North Carolina's state curriculum.

Grades 9-12

AIG student services are documented on the DEP explaining how instruction should be driven in the classroom. AIG students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to take Advanced Placement (AP) and/or Honors classes. Students are also encouraged to attend the NCS Early College.